

HORSE CREEK

Horse Creek Corridor Description:

Horse Creek is the western-most stream corridor in the study area.. The water in Horse Creek is clear and stream banks appear stable. The floodplain is wide and well-vegetated. Evidence suggests that the corridor supports a healthy wildlife population. The stream flows in a northeast to southwest direction before emptying into Falls Lake. Increasingly, Wake Forest is expanding westward, therefore maintaining the health of the stream should be a priority.

Horse Creek Corridor Objectives:

The Horse Creek corridor is not well suited to support a trail facility, at least not in a contiguous manner. Greenway in this corridor need to be Type 1 (No Facility Development) or Type 2 (Limited Development Low Impact Uses) to ensure that surfaces are porous and do not adversely effect the water absorbing functions of the floodplain soil. If facilities in this corridor are to be constructed, special care should be taken to ensure that Neuse River rules are strictly followed.

A major obstacle along the corridor is the Wake Forest Golf Club, though the future of the golf course is unknown. Passage through or around this facility for a contiguous trail is desirable, though it would be difficult to design with the necessary safety considerations addressed. Additionally, soil conditions along the upper portion of the stream would make trail construction difficult. The lower stretches of Horse Creek, within the study area and beyond, could someday provide a popular connection to Falls Lake. However, it is important to stress that the ecological health of the stream is its greatest strength and its contribution to the drinking water supply is its greatest service.

TOM'S CREEK

Corridor Description:

Tom's Creek is the shortest stream corridor within the study area. The stream flows east to southwest from the Rolesville area to the Neuse River. The stream passes through residential neighborhoods and a large wetland before emptying into the Neuse River. The stream is listed as a 303(d) stream due to point source pollution, land development nonpoint source pollution, and urban runoff.

Tom's Creek Corridor Objectives:

The greatest potential for this stream is its ability to connect Wake Forest to Rolesville, contributing to a countywide effort to link Wake County communities. There are sizeable wetlands associated with Brown's Lake at the eastern edge of the study boundary. The ecological functions of the wetlands, the cultural significance of the lake and granite dam, and